## Message Text

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AEC-05 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

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R 251528Z OCT 74 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7698 INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS/EFIN, EIND, ENRG, 85

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY DETAILS ON CURRENT ENEL REQUEST FOR EXIM

FIANCING NUCLEAR REACTORS

USEC BRUSSELS FOR RUBIN

COMMERCE FOR OED

VIENNA FOR DIETZ

PASS TREASURY AND EXIM

REF: ROME 14621

1. ENEL (CENTRAL DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING GIORDANI AND DIRECTOR OF CONSTURCTION BILELLI) INVITED ECON-COMML MINISTER AND SCIENCE ATTACHE TO ENEL HEADQUARTERS TO DISCUSS CURRENT ENEL FINANCING SITUATION FOR US DESIGNED REACTORS. THEY HAD PREPARED SHORT BRIEF DATE OCT 24 WHICH IS SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. ENEL ISSUED LETTERS OF INTENT ON MARCH 8, 1974 TO WESTING-HOUSE-ELETTRONUCLEARE ITALIANA FOR A 952 MW PWR AND TO GEANSALDO MECCANICO NUCLEARE FOR A 982.3 MW BWR.

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B. BOTH LETTERS INCLUDED OPTION FOR IDENTICAL SECOND UNIT. THISE OPTIONS EXERCISED JULY 26, 1974. ORDERS FOR ALL 4 PLANTS INCLUDE FABRICATION OF FUEL FOR FIRST LOAD AND EIGHT SUBSEQUENT RELOADS.

C. SITES HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPOVED BY COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

D. CONSTRUCTION TIME IS 68 MONTHS FROM SITE APPROVAL.

3. CONSTRUCTION INVESTIMENT FOR EACH PLANT ESTIMATED AT LIRE 330 BILLION OR \$5.0 MILLION. (NOTE: THIS CONVERSION GENERATES EXCHANGE RATE OF LIRE 647 - \$100. RATE IS CURRENTLY LIRE 669 - \$1.00) WITH PAYMENTS TYPICALLY FOLLOWING SCHEDULE OF: 7 PERCENT FIRST YEAR; 11 PERCENT SEOND; 22 PERCENT THIRD; 28 PERCENT FOURTH; 18 PERCENT FIFTH AND 14 PERCENT SIXTH YEAR. FIRST FUEL LOADS WILL COST LIRE 27 BILLION (PWR) AND LIRE 42 BILLION (BWR) INCLUDING ENRICHMENT COSTS.

F. US INDUSTRY IS EXPECTED PARTICIPATE IN DESIGN AND CONSTUCTION AND IN SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT AND FUEL TO ABOUT SAME EXTENT AS DOVERED BY EXIM FINANCING OF CAORSO STATION.

- G. AN ADDITIONAL AGREEMENT FOR SUPPLYING 8 RELOADS FOR CAORSO WAS REACHED WITH GE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE FUEL OF THE TWO BWR'S. DOLLAR PORTION THESE EXPENDITURES ALSO ADMITTED TO EXIM FINANCING
- 2. ENEL OFFICIALS SAID THAT NO APPROACHES HAVE BEEN MADE TO EXIM ON FINANCING, ASIDE FROM BRIEF MENTION BY PRESIDENT ANGELINI DURING HIS TRIP TO US IN CONNECTION WITH WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE LAST MONTH. THEY ASKED THAT THEIR APPROACH BE CONSIDERED FIRST OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH USG ON PROJECT, AND ASKED THAT EXIM BE PUT INTO TOUCH WITH THEM WE AGREED TO TRANSMIT THEIR REQUEST.
- 3. GIORDANI AND BILELLI STRESSED THAT ENEL STUDIES BASED ON TECHNOLOGY INDICATE THAT US REACTORS HAVE LOWEST COST. THEY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY CANADIANS WHO ARE PROPOSING CANDU REACTOR, UNDER FINANCING TERMS YET TO BE DISCUSSED. ENEL OFFICERS SPECIFICALLY CONTINUED THAT FINANCIAL TERMS ARE CONSIDERED BY ENEL TO BE PART OF THE PACKAGE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. WE SUGGEST THAT EXIM SEND A SENIOR OFFICER TO ROME. IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE, EXIM IS REQUESTED TO INVITE ENEL TO WASHINGTON. PLEASE ADVISE. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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To: STATE

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